LAWRENCE, K. T., Feb. 94, 1658. its recent adjournment the Legislature, men the Topska Constitution, determined to prese an address setting forth the facts in relation to to Topeka Gevernment, and send it to their cousecure and the country. The points to be seed in it were discussed, and a Joint Committee of both bodies appointed to frame it. The

ADDRESS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

DEPTH THE TOPKER CONTITUTION TO THE
FRONTE OF KANSAS.

The undersigned, Joint Committee of the Senate
House of Representatives under the People's
stitution, submit the following address to their con-

Had the political dangers which now threaten Kan-ma been less imminent, and the expression of the people is favor of the Topeka Constitution notes often aftersted, this second Legislature would in all proba-

people is favor of the Topeka Constitution not so often miterated, this second Legislature would in all probability have assembled but to dissolve.

But the dangers to which we advert still wear the meet threatening aspect. The advantages which it was supposed would flow from Territorial legislation do not seem to be so great as was expected or desired, and even the little obtained is held by a feeble tenure.

Kansas is threatened by a usurpation which, if successful, will prove fatal to our civil liberties and dangerous to the best interests of our people. We do not address you for the purpose of making any apology for the course of action we deem it best to take.

Neither do we appeal to you in behalf of this or any other Gevernment. We address you that you may be informed of the precise condition of that department of the Government with which you have entrusted us. For the future with you must rest the responsibility of deciding and acting in relation to it.

wedo not propose an elaborate vindication of the st. Many new settlers have flocked to Kansas since he Topeka Constitution was inaugurated; many who have neither seen the necessity of its origin nor com-prehended the objects for which it was designed. That these are less devoted to the principles of repub-

That these are less devoted to the principles of republican liberty we do not believe.

If any of them have opposed the Topeka Constitution, it was simply because they have regarded as merely one policy by which freedon could be severed for Kansas, and civil liberties for its people. They everlooked the fact that it embedded all the early struggles of the Kansas people against Missouri, and Federal oppression. That it was to them what the Magna Charta was to the Englishman, and the Declaration of Independence to the American. But the real opposition to the Topeka Constitution did not come from the recent emigrants. Its bitter opposition earns from the deadly enemies of Kansas, who have found it an obstacle to their purposes. But in spite of all this open hostility, or secret treachery against it, this Constitution has still been the choice of the masses of the people.

No Convention fully representing them ever assem bled, in which devotion to it was not made the test, and all political action was made to look toward build-

says: "It is because they have even refused to "anotion or recognize any other Constitution than
"that framed at Topeka." The Topeka Constitution
was inaugurated when there was no legitimate Govermment in Kansas. True, Missouri had pretended to
make a Legislature for this Territory, but the people
repadiated it, and when they found that the Federal
authorities consided at the villainy Missouri had begun, they abandoned a Territorial form of Government
under which such oppressions and frauds could be jusified.

But this Government of fraud was never a de facts But this Government or trade was never a de factor Government. The people turned their backs upon its Courts, its taxes, and its officers. Bogus authority withered in its inception. The people openly epit apon the parchment record of its crimes, which a pushlammous President had proclaimed to be law. In the past experience of our common country, Territorial Governments have been organized and maintained will the apolls of the Territory were willing to example. antil the people of the Territory were willing to assume the responsibility and expense of Government. In Kansas a new system has been introduced, by which the people have been reduced to an abject colonial vessalage fatal to their rights as American citizens.

The President frankly stated in his recent Massage hat the bogus Territorial Government could not have been maintained without the aid of the regular army. been maintained without the aid of the regular army. He says: "This Government they would long since have subverted, had it not been protocted from assaults by the troops of the United States. Such has been the condition of affairs since my inauguration." This we know to be a fact, and we also know that the yetematic support of corrupt Federal officials has been given to the same political iniquity. The effect to establish a State Government has been styled "rebellon," and treated as such. And yet all this has been in gross violation of precedent, the organic act, and the Constitution of the United States.

The Organic act explicitly states that the Territo rail Government was merely "temporary," that "the people" should frames State Government and apply for admission into the Union under it, and it even says that "it is the true intent and meaning of this act that the people shall be left perfectly free to form their institutions in their own way. Believing that the acts of Congress were the soletin act of responsible and honorable men; that they were something more than a double-meaning verbage of words to conceal political treachery, and above all, except that the United States.

responsible and honorable men; that they were some-thing more than a double-meaning verbiage of words to conceal political treachery, and above all, knowing that the Constitution of the United States and past precedent sanctioned such a step, the poople calmy and deliberately proceeded to form a State

Deactitation.

It was no harried scheme; no mere effervescence of popular sentiment. Several primary Conventions were held at different points of the Territory, representing much the greater portion of it, and embodying the public sentiment more fully than such movements usually do. The election for delegates to a Convention was held according to the same districts, census and regulations made by Gov. Reeder, and which had been so signally violated in the Territorial elections.

The Constitution framed was a moderate, and is

The Constitution framed was a moderate, and is many respects a good document. It even made conexecutes to the slave interests and slave property to an extent which would have weakened it in the eyes of extent which would have weakened it in the eyes of maprejudiced minds, had the necessities for its adoption been sees urgent. This Constitution was submitted to the vote of the people. At the time when it was first submitted the invasion of armed forces from Missouri tended to reduce the vote, but still it obtained a majority of the legal votes then in the Territory. Since that time it has been re-submitted, and has been ratified by a larger vote than has ever been given in the Territory. a larger vote than has ever been given in the Territory for any man or cause whatever. A regular State election was held under the provisions of the Constitution, and State officers and a Legislature elected. In March, 1826, the Legislature met. And here the people of Kansas gave another indication of that spirit of mederation and conciliation which has always characterized them. The Legislature did not proceed at time to make the Government a de facto Government, but adjourned to await the action of Congress.

When it assembled on the 4th of July of the same

When it assembled, on the 4th of July of the same year, although the popular branch of Congress had decided in its favor, a portion of the Federal army

breke sp its sittings.
In January, when it again assembled, a United States.
In January, when it again assembled, a United States. Marshal arrested enough of its members to interfer with its business. The delay which this violent and apprecedented interference had secured gave the reprecedented interference had secured gave the handful of Pro-Blavery men in the Territory an opportunity for initiating steps for a State Government. This they made to grow out of the Missouri-neurped Territorial Legislature, and every step in this new process was conceived in fraud and villainy.

Their pretended elections were conducted by a class of usurpers, who never would have been able to assume their functions but for the perpetration of the biackest political crimes.

A false registration was made the basis of its representative power. A criminal apportionment left one-

A lawe registration was made the basis of its representative power. A criminal apportionment left one-half of the Territory without representation. Under these circumstances the people were called upon to abandon their own Constitution, which they had framed under the express conditions of the Organic act, and acknowledge a usurpation under all those armwhacks. They refused to do so, and determined to abide by their own Constitution. This was done by a full Delegate Convention of the Territory.

Under these circumstances it became evident to the edgarchy, and to the pusilismimous Administration it has selected to do its infamous work, that defeat would attend every scheme for Slavery so long as the people ramained united to the Topeks Constitution. In such emergency they sent out one of their most causing politicians, who came to Kansas with large promises, and endeavored to ingratiate himself with its people by expressing a desire for fair play. He reiterated the doctrine that "the people must rule," but proved the hollowness of such assertions by open and secret hostility to the Constitution that a large majority of the people had, time and again, declared their determination to support. His efforts had the result of creating a serious schism in the Free Stateparty. That party which had been a unit, and which beir determination to support. His efforts had the result of creating a serious schism in the Free State party. That party which had been a unit, and which requered to be a unit when maintaining a parely popular government, was thus divided. The bands that held together the "bundle of rods" were cunningly lossed by this dexterous politician. It would be useless to recount all the steps taken to secure this result. Lecal and selfah interests were stirred up and set at rivalry. Ambitious men who had failed to secure them the people posts that they covered were admitted to the conferences of the willy againter, and were

med as active agents against what had always been the wrowed palloy of the Free State party.

To escape the odium of descrition, they assumed that the Free-State party only required its members to be in favor of a Free-State by say means. The Free-State party up to that time had two distinct objects in one policy, which they had given to the world in platforms on all occasions. The first was a repudiation of the Misseuri sampation; the second, adherence to the People's Constitution. Governor Walker formed a party in the Free-State party hostile to these two objects, and without any awowed policy. In June isat, the State Legislature again assembled. As codifying Committee had prepared laws for the complete organization of the Government.

The design was to have these quietly accepted by the people without seeking or causing any collision,

The design was to have these quietly accepted by the people without seeking or causing any collision, and thus to have given broad and healthy roots to the People's Government. Gov. Walker exerted himself to defeat this, which he foresaw would result in the triumph of the people. In his dispatch to Secretary Case, at that time, he admits that the result of deferring such action, which deferring was secured by the active exertions of several promisent Free-State men, was the beginning of his timuph, and, as he says, "the commencement of the disintegration of the Free-State party, and the organization of a National "Democratic party." The Free-State people were next induced to participate in the Ostober election. If the design had been to abandon the Topeka Constitution, or kill it effectually, this would have been very proper; but weakened though it was, the people would not consent to such abandonment. Those, therefore, who urged such participation meat actively, took the ground that it was done merely to "silence the little Lecompton battery," and to take steps to give validity to the People's Government. There was, indeed, even then a party in the Free-State party hostile to the Topeka Constitution, but it was at that time too weak to avow its real objects. Many year, fearing indeed, even then a party in the Free-State party now tile to the Topeka Constitution, but it was at that time too weak to avow its real objects. Many men, fearing that the new policy was to be dominant, attached themselves to it in hopes of acquiring any prestige that might flow from it. Charged with being "factious" and "impracticable," and urged to participate, that the Ferritorial Government might be removed, the people reluctantly did as

that the Territorial Government ingit be removed, the people rejuctantly did so.

The tools of the objection by the preposterous "Oxford" and other frauds. Enraged, the people were preparing to fell back with renewed devotion to their old Constitution, when Gov. Walker rejected the Oxford and McGhee frauds, and thus the people were bound to the Territorial Government.

Meanwhile the Pro-Slavery minority framed a Slave Constitution, which they refused to submit to the peoplar vote. The people repudiated it in the most solemn manner in full Delegate Convention. The Territorial Legislature was instructed to submit the two Constitutions to a fair vote of the people of Kansas. No proposition could be more fair—nothing so likely to produce a harmonious result, if it ever was the design of the Federal tyrants to allow the people to choose their own instrument of government. But it was not. The Territorial Legislature, at its called session, refused to do this, alleging, as a reason, private was not. The Territorial Legislature, at its called session, refused to do this, alleging, as a reason, private pledges to a Federal officer, which, as the representatives of the people, they had no right to give. A provision was made to submit the Lecompton Constitution to a vote of the people under the forms of territorial law. This was done, and the people rejected the Lecomption Constitution by an overwhelming majority, and thus made it treason against their civil rights for any man to assume to hold office under it. According to the terms of the Constitution, this body the recond Legislative Assembly, convened January 4, of this year. In the October election the ground had everywhere been taken that the territorial forms should be swept away by the People's Government. had everywhere been taken that the territorial forms should be swept away by the People's Government. Conventions of the Free-State party had so decided. We have accordingly assembled, but find that the Territorial Legisture has utterly refused in any shape to recognize our existence or do anything to strengthen the People's Government. They have refused, even, to repeal the laws of the Missouri usurpers. Under these circumstances we find that the people have made another Government, the acts and labors of which are supported by Federal money and Federal power.

we do not now shrink from any responsibility that might be incurred by sustaining the People's Govern-ment, but we inevitably suffer from these facts, and

ment, but we inevitably suffer from these facts, and our action is crippled and rendered inefficient.

By concurrent resolution we asked the Territorial Legislature to do what the people of right expected them to do, and took a recess the better to enable them to comply, as best they could, and during which to prepare a code of laws for the State, to be submitted to legislative action. This was done. On reassembling, we find that the Territorial Legislature has failed to redeem its pledges to a majority of those who elected it. We find that instead of using the forms of Territorial Government to overthrow the

We offer this evidence that we have never voluntarily abandoned our duty, and will resume it the mo

W.M. A. PHILLIPS, Chairman, J. M. HENRY. J. M. HENRY.
W. F. M. ARNY.
W.M. HUTCHINSON,
J. M. WALDEN,
B. B. NEWTON,
L. MARTIN,
CHARLES MAYO.

INCIDENTS OF TRAVEL.

From Our Special Correspondent. VALLEY OF THE OSAGE, Feb. 27, 1858. Hannibal had to go to the Alps before he tried his celebrated experiment on them with the vinegar. For one battle there may be a dozen of marches. A Border-Ruffian force is somewhere before us in the Valley of the Osage, but the dragoons are looked for at every moment. Gen.

... with a howitzer and a volunteer force, mostly from this region and the country still further south, is somewhere ahead in the valley. The Free-State volunteers from other points are mus tering, but there cannot be a very heavy force near the scene of action. The volunteer character of the enterprise, the want of stores and equipage, the Winter season, and, above all, the probable arrival of the dragoons, bid fair to throw a damper on the expectation of meeting and driving the Missouri army from the soil of Kansas.

The first reports I met were of ruin to the Free State settlements on the Little Osage and the Mar maton; but it appears that the enemy have not ventured on anything of the kind yet. I learned this morning that the Missourians had gone back to Missouri, and were waiting just across the border. which is only four miles from Fort Scott. But these are rumors only, and I have up to this time no battle or skirmish or swful destruction to record. The enemy seem to have waited an attack from an imaginary army, that they doubtless heard was before Fort Scott, or have been dubious as to the expediency or safety of an attack on the Little Osage Valley. Delay in all such cases will be more

likely to prove fatal than a battle.

One of the richest valleys in Kansas is the Ossge The road from Lawrence hither lies the greater part of the way along the valley of this river and among its tributaries. After crossing the Santa Fe road, fourteen miles from Lawrence, the traveler enters the valley or valleys of the Osage. The Marie de Cygnes, as it is called, is the upper part of it. The only "swans" I ever saw in it were a couple of Ottawa squaws, whom I once came across "swans" I ever saw in it were a during the Summer of 1856, and who, as I rode over the ford, I observed in the pool above, testing the hydropathic qualities of its waters in an extemporized feast of the purification. They did not take fight as I had expected, but sank up to their necks until I had passed, leaving only a couple of modest

taces above the water. The river takes the name Marie de Cygnes above the junction of the Potawatamie and Bull Creek. These are both very large creeks, and join in the main stream within a few miles of the same point, which is then called Osage River. In the sloping point of land between the Marie de Cygnes and the Potawatamie, close to their junction, stands the his-

eare of itself. It is one of the earmost and true Free-State towns. It has got a newspaper, and its people talk of a railroad. Below Osawatomie the Osage winds hither and

Below Osawatomic the Osage winds hither and thither until it leaves Lykins County, and pursues its devious, course through a rich and heavily-tim-bered valley through Linn County, from which it crosses the Missouri berder. The north-easters corner of Linn County is held in reserve by the In-dians, but the bulk of it has been thrown open and is settling up very fast, although claims are still to be had.

I staid last night with a half conwi Slavery man who lives on a prong of Middle Creek. Two families, consisting of as many generations, and of some fourteen persons in all, occupied a log cabin some 14 by 16 feet, to which was stuck on, like a barnacle, a shed of about one-half the dimensions. Where they were all stowed, heaven knows. All of the juveniles slipped off quietly, as they felt in the humor of gains to work an into the mysterical states. in the humor of going to roost, up into the mysterious, and, I am happy to say, by me unex-plored, conveniences of the attie, which consisted of a very obtusely flattened triangle, the center of which could not have been more than four feet high, which could not have been more than our tees as sides tapering both ways to nothing. As the in-termediate roof was composed of split boards or shakes, I was, several times during the night in expectation, of descent by those above. Every time one of them turned over there was a crackling. To make the matter worse, the mice kept running and rattling about: I think they must have had a mouse mass meeting. My two companions who shared with me the honors of the bed, which had a bedstead, and which, I presume, was re-served for the accommodation of travelers, snored on in happy oblivion of all such minor miseries, listening to the mice and counting the ticking of a little wooden Connecticut contrivance, nailed up against the wall, measuring out the slow

hours of the night.

Our host had been two years in the Territory He had raised his second crop, but seemed to be very careless of the many little comforts that surely could be acquired in less time. The family food, as both of the occasions on which I had an opportunity to observe it, was coursely made corn bread and fried pork. I had almost forcotton a dingy decoction they called coffee. No vegetables, or potatoes. I am not much of an epicure, especially when traveling, but I could not help speculating on the probable effect of such a course of dietics on the health—not to say morals—of the victims. A scientific friend of mine has a theory that those who use badly fried swine's flesh, from year to year, absorb in some of the worst charac-teristics of the animal. I would not like to indorse any such speculation, but I have occasionally been driven to the conclusion that there was a little evi-

dence looking that way.

At breakfast mine host told me he was "Con servative." I very innocently asked him what "Con servatism" was, but he could not enlighten me He seemed to think, however, that it was something that might be Pro-Slavery without being altogether Pro-Slavery, and Free-State without being altogether Free-State; so the reader will perceive that

valleys, and the bluffs ranging along the streams are often bold and rocky. On the high land is rich, sloping prairie; in the bottoms, heavy belts of timber. The water in all these streams looks very

clear, sithough I observe that sand is very scarce. Sugar Mound, unlike the Blue Mound of Wakerusa, and Webster's Peak, near Topeka, is not a solitary watcher, like a pyramid; it is rather the bold termination of a high ridge. It is mostly covered with timber, and derives its name from the

I will narrate but another circumstance ere I close We had been riding along the bold prairie toward the Little Osage. Once or twice we passed the charred remains of cabine that had been burned in former times by the Border Ruffians. At one place there was a ruined chimney, and smid the charred and broken fragments were glass, broken earthen ware, and rusty iron.
"That was a store," said one of my companions

has failed to redeem its pledges to a majority of those who elected it. We find that instead of using the forms of Territorial Government to overthrow the Missouri asurpation, such asurpation has been legalized, while a few general laws and a large amount of special legislation have been engrafted upon it.

Such are the circumstances under which we find outselves. High Executive efficers under the State Constitution have publicly declared that "the Topeka Constitution is dead." Discouraged, many members of each body have gone home, and left us without a quorum. We are still ready to perform our duties should the majority of the people desire it. Should a trying hour for the people of Kansas arrive, by the acceptance of the Lecomptoz Constitution by Congress, we shall be at our posts should the people desire it. Should a trying hour for the present, and to refer back to the people who elected us, the question as to whether the Topeka Constitution is "dead."

Under a fearful opposition from a despotic Federa power, and under a torrent of malignant abuse and falsification from pretended friends, we have endeavored to viadicate the rights of an unquestionable majority of the people of Kansas.

A few years will serve to develop the justice and propriety of our course. To that future we can leave it.

We offer this evidence that we have never volunta—

We affer the time it was done at a mound called Lookout Mound, about a mile shead, and that their bones still lay there, as they never had been killed at the time it was done at a mound called Lookout Mound, about a mile ahead, and that their bones still lay there, as they never had been killed at the time it was done at a mound called Lookout Mound, about a mile ahead, and that their bones still lay there, as they never had been killed at the time it was done at a mound called Lookout Mound, about a mile ahead, and that their bones still lay there, as they never had been killed at one lided Lookout Mound, about a mile and their bone of killed Lookout Mound, about a mi that in the far south I saw the timber of the Mar-maton. Settlers have clustered along the streams,

but the prairie is mostly unoccupied.

The mound on which I stood has a flat surface of few rods in extent. It was on this that two Free-State men, who had owned the grocery store that was burned down, had taken refuge with their guns. They had fied from the band that had assailed them, were there more to keep a look out than to. While there a portion of the party returned There were four horsemen, and they discovered the Free-State men on the mound, and undertook to take them prisoners. The latter lay down on the summit of the peak, and as the horsemen attempted o ride up, fired at them. Two of the assailants fell from their horses mortally wounded, and the other two galloped off. The two Free-State men, fearing that the rest of the company were not far off, fled, and the two wounded men were left to die. I descended from the mound and went to where their bones lay. The bones were very much bleached, and had been scattered by the cayotah or prairie wolves, that had picked thom.

I lifted a broken skull. "Alss poor

I lifted a broken skull. "Alas, poor Yorick!" They surely deserved to die, and yet there might be many hearts that would mourn even for them.

"Had they a father!
Had they a mother!
Had they a bother!"

I threw down the bones, and left them to cram le where they had fallen.

FROM CONNECTICUT.

From An Occasional Correspondent. SUFFIELD, Conn., March 6, 1858.

If, instead of exclaiming as he did, Job had said, "Oh, that mine enemy had written a letter for publication in a New-York daily newspaper, he would have been entitled to be rated in the New England Primer as the 'cutest as well as the most patient of mankind. I was not aware, in the becinning, of the vexations and perils that environ occasional correspondence," else would you never have obtained from me any written account of goings on in Connecticut. But having once begun, I find that to stop is almost as difficult as to halt on the treadmill. To say the least, it is nearly as bad as to go forward. At first my vanity was wonderfully tickled to see myself in print, and I used to chuckle furtively if I chanced to hear anybody wonder who Granger" might be. Presently suspicion alighted on me. Several Democratic friends, at divers times, charged me with the misdemeanor of writing letters to THE TRIBUNE. I am exceedingly ingenuous, and would not deny the charge. Moreover, am as modest as I am ingenuous, and my tell-tale I am as modest as I am agranded and my centrale blushes betrayed me. My friends remonstrated, labored with me, set forth the magnitude of my offense, told me that unless I reformed at once my standing in the party would be seriously affected. And here let me say (though I say it that shouldn't say it), that said standing was at the time I wrote my first letter to you—well—from fair to middling. A certain escapade of 1845 was forgiven and nearly forgotten. But having told you of two good toric town of Cawatamie. It has received its own share of Border-Ruffan abuse in its time, but has to add that I am prone to be obstimate when anythriven withal, and se new perfectly abis to take body undertakes, by that of force or threats, to

drive me. So I assumed a beld front, and asserted my right to write possiping news letters to whomserver I pleased; and I said that if anybody didn't
like it they needn't read the letters. Whereast noy
friends departed, shaking their heads, in token as
well of their sorrow as their sagnesty, leaving me
with my knees knocking together; for, to tell the
truth, all the time I was talking so bravely, my
bosom was filled with secret trepstations and misgivings. Now, doubtless permatence in my evil
courses was injurious, just as my friends predicted.
Be that as it may, my less letter to you settled my
hash at any rate; although, while I was writing it,
I never dreamed I was getting into such a scrape.
In fact (between us), I didn't think much of that
letter. As Gil Blas conserved the archbishop's
homilies began to savor of paralysis and old age, so
I feared that there was, is this letter, a perceptible
flavor of dyspepsy, and that it smacked of indigestions. But, having been at some pains to write it. on tions. But, having been at some pains to write it, on the arm of my chair, I dishked the notion of putting it into the fire and losing all my labor, and so it was sent and printed. Really, I thought there couldn't be a baker's dozen who could ever read it through. Judge of my surprise and eke dismay, when both The Courant and The Press quoted each the same portion of this very letter, with comments by the editors. Nay, The Press even went so far as to print several sentences in italics! ness gracious! that, in a time of infirmity, I should be left to write anything to be quoted by the opposition press in italies. In the course of the succeeding week I received a number of communications from the friends who had prophesied my ruin, and from others, some of which were objurgatory in style, some reproachful, some even tenderly regret-ful. Not one had read the letter which gave rise to the rumor, but all had heard a rumor that I had gone over to the Black Republicans, body and sotorth, and had announced my desertion in the col-umns of THE TRIBUNE. Now, bear in mind that this was upon the eve of the annual State Conven-tion, and that I was unable, from lack of physical ability, and from the brevity of the period between their reception and the meeting of the Convention. to reply to but a very iew of these communications. Bear in mind that our old State ticket was worn out by long service and successive beatings, and that the Convention was to construct a new one. Bear in mind that, except for the first place on the ticket, it was expected that a scramble for the nominations would be had, and that no living man could tell who would come out ahead. Now, I am not going to reveal, even to you, what may have been my dreams and ambitious aspirations. But this I will say, that there was no such thing as foretelling what luck there was no such thing as foretening what tuck might happen to a fellow, as the result clearly proves. And some of the unsuccessful candidates, who, nevertheless, received a goodly number of votes, and whose chances up to the last ballot seemed as fair as anybody's. If some folks couldn't make as good a Lieutenant-Governor, or Secretary or Treasurer, or Controller, as some other folks-humph!—I should like to know the reason why However, my name was not put in nomination, and I don't hear that I got a single vote for any place upon the ticket. Yet who knows what might have turned up if I hadn't written that letter!

- Of all sad words of tonger or pen, The saddest are these: 'It might have been '"

But the unkindest cut of all was from The Springfield Republican. Now I believe that Springfield is a smart place, and that The Republican is a smart paper. Indeed, I used to say that it was the best ry newspaper in the nation, and I think so Its published opinion of any person of mere now. Its published opinion of any person of mere local reputation, if remembered, might, and proba-bly would, have considerable weight and influence even long afterward. I was specially sorry, there-fore, The Republican saw fit to misetate that portion of my last letter to you which referred to my own sentiments touching the admission of Kansas, with the forged instrument called the Lecompton Consti-tution. I beg leave to say to the editor who penned the paragraph, that I never had occasion to repent of the sin of favoring Lecompton, either the Judge or the measure so known and called of men. I was never guilty of either error, and so had no need to be sorry on that score. Then the editor took a good deal of pains to go out of his way and cast a slur upon the prefessional reputation of a person whom he supposes to be the author of the letter. I am told this wanton and un-just attack is warmly resented by many members of the Hartford County Bar. I am willing to say my-self, that I think any one not informed of the truth would, by reading the paragraph, receive a false and injurious impression concerning the professional standing of the person in question. Then there were some other smart, droll sayings, contained in the brief article, which, I can assure the writer thereof, were extremely unpleasant for an invalid to read, who is ill enough content already to view, from apart, the great stream of busy human life, upon whose flowing tide he sees his friends and late compeers borne swiftly and prosperously along, while he, himself, caught and embayed in the eddy of a sick room, is unable to push out into the current, but is forced to remain idle, inactive, and too often

despondent.

But if the witty editor really supposed I had indeed repented of former transgressions, he ought imitation, but, on the contrary, follow hearty sorrow for his own peccadilloes. I fear that unless he complies with this well-meant advice, somebody, whose name begins with a D-a good deal worse than the Dutch-will take Holland as

The two most important events which have hap-pened in Hartford since the date of my last unfor-tunate epistle, were the Charity Concert and the Democratic Caucus for the election of delegates to the State Convention. The former was talked for a long time before it was determined upon, and then prepared for a good while longer, until public expectation was excited to a degree that would have insured success, even under far less favorable circumstances. As it was, the concert was a great success, and its net proceeds, after paying all expenses, amounted to about \$500, which, with the avails of a second concert, or repetition of the same programme, amounting to over \$200, were paid over to the proper persons, for the relief of the poor of the city. The success of this concert gives assurance that there may be established a musical society in Hartford, a thing which, after many at-tempts to bring about, has been for a long time considered an impossibility. The great obstacle in the way of success has been, hitherto, that each of several gentlemen, the chiefs of as many little musical cliques, would never consent to sing under the direction of any of the others. Each aspired to the leadership, and none were willing to take subordinate positions. To be sure, there was not one of them all who was not fit to be the leader; but there was none that excelled the but there was none that excelled the others so much as to give his claim preeminence. And so it has happened, that, in a city containing a large of excellent singers and musicians, every project which has ever been started for the formation f a musical society has fallen through. The chronic difficulty was encountered when the charity concer was proposed; but a compromise was effected, whereby two conductors were appointed, whose names appear upon the programme, so that neither takes precedence of the other-one of whom led the chorus half the time at the concert, and the ther the other half. There were also two organ ists, who played only duets—one of whom sat on the right half the time, and was succeeded by his colleague during the remainder. By means of these ingenious expedients, peace and harmony, sufficient unto the time, were created and preserved, and calousies and heartburnings smothered or concealed.

I find that I have not time or space left for the relation of what happened at the Democratic caucus. In my next, which shall be sent in a day I will give you a veritable account of this remarkable meeting, and in the same letter I will indeavor to enlighten you touching the position and the prospects of the several political parties that now stand in battle array, with banners flying, waiting for the grand contest to be fought out on the first Monday in April. GRANGER.

FROM NEW-HAVEN.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune. YALL COLLEGE, March 6, 1858.

The Coroner's Jury in the case of Wm. Miles have t length rendered a ver liet-an abenrd specimes of a Coroner's verdict, going outside of what was required, and that, too, in a bungling manner. The verdet is as

Soliens:
"New Hours County, is.—Two of New Hores, March 4. D. 1616.—The underrigand pures bring duty imputation of

to inquire of the cours and meaner of the death of Willia, whose death was redden and antimely, having view of a said deceased, and considered the evidence given a on our saids say that the said William Miss came to be from the effects of a wound infleted by a pictor ball white tion.

"Hitam camp, foreman, John L. Disbrew Howard B. Eneign
Henry N. Whittlesey, Smith Meravin, Chas. W. Allen, Nethaniel
Smith, John F. Biescher, Win, B. Johnson, R. P. Cowles, GedOlmated, Newell C. Hall."

During the ivestigation an interesting and impor-

tant question arose, to which the last sentence of the above vertict has some reference. A student named Anderson, the steward of the club, on being called on above vertict has some reference. A student hander Anderson, the steward of the cist, on being called on to testify whether he saw weapons lying upon the table on the evening of the occurrence, refused to answer. He was committed for contempt of Court, but his counsel, taking out a habeas corpus, had him brought before Judge Storrs, of the Superior Court, by whom the question was decided in the course of a day or two. After stating the general principle that a witness is not required to incriminate himself, he said that the decision as to whether the answer to the question asked would incriminate must not rest with the witness alone; the Court also must be reasonably satisfied that it would before excusing the witness. The application in this case seemed to him very plain: an affirmative answer to the question asked would furnish evidence to which the learned Judge said he hanself would be very unwilling to be exposed in a Court of Justice. The witness was therefore discharged.

As the affair stands now in College, the "Crocodie Club" has been dishanded, and a sum of money

As the affair stands now in College, the "Croce-dile Club" has been disbanded, and a sum of money (\$375) has been raised for the family of the decessed, who are in destitute circumstances. In the city, a reward of \$500 has been effected for testimony which will lead to the arrest and conviction of the person

will lead to the arrest and conviction of the person who shot Miles.

The Beethoven Society lately gave a concert for the benefit of the poor. It was well attended and applicated. Some of the music was of a high order, and fully sustained the previous reputation of the Society. The Senior mathematical prizes have just been awarded. First, a gold medal and \$10 in money, J. W. Gibbs, New-Haven, Conn.; second, \$10. John Lovewell, Corinth, Vt.

## INDIANA IN CONVENTION.

The Republicans of Indiana, in their recent State Convention, adopted the following Declaration of

First: That our National Government ought to be so administered as to premote harmony between the different sections of our country, secure the affections of all the people of the United States, and command

Star the people of the nations of the earth.

Second: That the people of a Territory when they come to form a Constitution preparatory to their admission into the Union as a State, have the right to

come to form a Constitution preparatory to their admission into the Union as a State, have the right to adopt such a Constitution, being republican in form, as may be acceptable to themselves, and that no State ought to be received into the Union before the Constitution thereof has been fully and fairly submitted to the peeple for their adoption or rejection, and received the approval of the majority of its legal voters.

Third: That the attempt now being so persistently made by the present Administration to impose upon Kansas the Lecompton Constitution, notoriously obnoxious to the great majority of her citizens, and with no other object than to force upon them institutions against which they have repeatedly and most earnestly protested, is a goes outrage upon the rights of the peeple of that Territory, and calculated to disturb the peace and harmony of the country.

Fourth: That Freedom is national and Slavery sectional, and that we do most earnestly protest against and denounce the dangerous and alarming doctrine first promulgated by the disunionists and nullifiers of the South, that the Constitution of the United States of itself carries Slavery into, and protects it in, all the territories of the United States, and this doctrine and all its supporters, maintainers and defenders, whether in or out of anthority, we here pledge ourselves to resist and oppose, as enemies to the peace and welfare of the country.

Fight: That we reaffirm the doctrine that Congress

of the country.

Fifth: That we reaffirm the doctrine that Congres

Fight: That we reaffirm the doctrine that Congress has the constitutional power to exclude Slavery from the National Territories, notwithstanding the extra-indicial opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States to the centrary.

Sizth: That we disclaim any right to interfere with Slavery in the States where it exists under the shield of State Sovereignty, but we oppose now, as heretofore, its extension into any of the Territories, and will use all proper and constitutional means to prevent such extension.

sand with the all proper and constitutional means to prevent such extension.

Secenth: That we do not struggle for mere party triumph, but for the right and the good of our whole country; and that we honor those political opponents who have had the maniferest to place themselves in opposition to the Administration in its assault upon the fundamental principles of American liberty.

Eighth: That Jesse D. Bright and Graham N.

Fitch are not of right the representatives of this State in the Senate of the United States, and ought to be in the Senate of the United States, and ought to be immediately oused therefrom.

North: That we will always resist the scheme of selfish and unscrupulous persons, high in power, having for its object the re-transfer of the Wabash and Eric Canal from the bondholders to the State.

Tenth: That we are in favor of granting to actual settlers on the public lands a homestead of at least 150 acres.

ico acres.

—An attempt to defeat this declaration, substituting not to have made fun of an example so worthy of his therefor a simple reaffirmation of that laid down at Philadelphia in June, 1856, was defeated by an over

whelming vote. - The following timely and judicious letter from one of the most intrepid and efficient Republicans in Con-

gress from Indiana, appears in The Indiana State Journal:

Journal:

LETTER FROM MR COLFAX—THE DUTY OF REPUBLICANS IN THE PRESENT CRISIS.

Washington, March 1, 1858.

My Dear Sir: The near approach of the Mass Meeting, to be held at Indianopolis next Thursday, reminds me of the promise I made that I would write you previous to its assembling. I think it would have been more propitious for the cause in which all its members feel so earnest an interest, if it had been called together at a later period is the year, not only securing a still fuller view of all the aspects of the great issue before us, and a campaign the deep interest of which would be unflagging from its opening till its close, but also giving more time to see the effect of the revolt by the more independent portion of the Democratic party, against the proscriptive test which requires fealty of them to a measure they loathe as infamous, under penalty of political excommunication. Whether the meeting shall proceed to nominate a ticket now, or shall fix a time and suggest a platform on which a ticket shall be framed hereafter, is a question properly belonging to those who will assemble; and not having been chosen a delegate. form on which a ticket shall be framed hereafter, is a question properly belonging to those who will assemble; and not having been chosen a delegate, I have no right to advise what action should be taken. But it may not be improper, as one of the Representatives of the State at the National Capitol, to speak to the people of Indiana, who may assemble under your call, in regard to the extraordinary issue now pending in Congress; and which, from its magnitude, overshadows all other issues in Platforms or Parties.

For the first time in our national history—and God grant that it may be the last—a President of the United States, backed by a large and powerful array in

both Houses, seeks to drag into the Confederacy an unwilling State. Extraordinary as is this endeavor, it is increased in its enormity by the fact that the people of this proposed State have, in the most decided manner, by a majority of thousands, by the nearly unsulmous resolves of their Legislature, by their Delegate most floor in the most decided manner, by a majority of thousands, by the nearly unsulmous resolves of their Legislature, by their Delegate most floor and in every other. upon this floor, and in every other way open to them, expressed their indignant condemnation of the act. Still more shameful is the fact, which no man, here or elsewhere, is hardy enough to depy, that the pre-tended Constitution, under which they are to be ad-mitted, is the work of a pitiful minority of its citizens who themselves concede this, by refusing the people they profess to "represent" the opportunity of reject. they profess to "represent" the opportunity of reject-ing the instrument under which they are to be forced to live; and who violated the essential principle of an "election"—the right to choose—by so submitting it that every one who voted at their polls should be compelled to vote ros it, and to swear, besides in adcompelled to vote you it and to swear, besides in advance of its adoption, that he would faithfully support it, under the pains and penalties of perjury! And, worse than all, is the undenied and undeniable truth that "the people of Kansas," who, it is claimed, have technically framed this Constitution, so utterly hate, scorn and repudiate it, that it can be imposed upon the infant State, if at all, only by the same power of bayonet and ball which upholds the usurper of France on his throne, and protects the cruel trant of Vanies. on his throne, and protects the cruci tyrant or Naples

on his throne, and protects the cruel tyrant of Naples from the hate and revenge of his subjects.

The Administration flatters itself that the power of this Government, ravollen as it has been of late years to such an enormous extent, is irresistible and commanding. So it is in a good and righteous cause. But that power will prove to be but weakness itself when exercised in such a standeress enterprise as this. They will find that they cannot ensave the Free people of Kansas. If they were Chinese or African, Russian Seris or Indian Sepoya, it might be possible. But they are the descendants of men who sparned the petry tax on test to a account of the patry pittance it involved, but because it was the agency by which their deal ed, but because it was the speacy by which their des-puts sought to intest and mybalize their sabaneses.

And when this Administration seeks to perpetrate the higher crime of forcing on them an organic law as their Magna Charta, which they detest as the consum-mation and enshrinement of the naurpation which the Government's power has so long uphold, they will that not all the bayonets of all the hired soldiers which the military despotism at the head of our affairs can call into the field will be able to put this fruidulent, instrument into successful operation over a people carriment into successful operation over a people instrument into successful operation over a powho despise it, or to crush the Freemen of Kursas ubmission to its authority.

I rejoice to say that there is a possibility, in spite of

I rejoice to say that there is a possibility, in spite of the despotism of party discipline and the threats and persuasions of the Administration, that this wicked scheme may be frustrated. If the people with a rand in their popular conventions speak their will will a voice deeper tened than party, and therefore mean potential, they can aid materially in consigning the gigantic fraud to a deserved and an ignominious grave. If, however, as has too often been the case if its North, on the threshold of a crisis like this, though the party of the Slave Power, array themselves into a half-dozen at tagonistical camps, seeking rather to define may sharply the points on which they disagree than follow shields tegether in defense and vindication of the line tagonistical camps, seeking rather to define most sharply the points on which they disagree than folicit shields tegether in defense and vindication of the imperiled rights of freemen, no one need wonder if the compact, united and almost irresistible influence of the Administration, aided by an almost unanimous Southern delegation in Cengress, and the power of a great party beside, should win the victory over a divided foe. But, if acting on the maxim that "when "bad men combine good men should unite," the hour of the opposition should take the fickly with a platform higher than party—without any repudiation of a single political principle ever entertained by any of them—but all united in hostility to this great crime of the age—a crime against the pistforms of all the political parties of 185c, Republican, American and Democratic—but what is of higher moment, a crime against an oppressed people, a crime against instince—and should reserve to consign to political annihilation every man, high or low, who aids and abets in it, the moral influence of that stand would be powerfully felt in the straigle here at Washington. The successful resistance, thus far, to every move of the Administration in favor of the Lecompton iniquity has been achieved by a spectaneous union of members who, differing on other issues, agreed in a hearty hatred of this. In that using Republicans, Americans and Democrats have cooperated, without requiring cach other to forsue their deligiance to their respective creeds. And if the Administration is finally defeated, it will be by a faithful persistence in this course to the end. It will be you union of those who are for popular rights against Executive wrong—who are for popular rights against Executive wrong—who are for justice to Kanesa against Tyranny for Kansas, and who are resolved to resist this monstrous demand of the Oligarchy which rules Presidents and Cabinets, but, happily, bis not

a union of those who are for popular rights against Executive wrong—who are for justice to Kanses against Tyranny for Kansas, and who are resolved to resist this monstrous demand of the Oligarchy which rules Presidents and Cabinets, but, happily, his not yet absolute rule over Congress, and who will resist that rule fearlessly, in spite of the threats of disunion if its demands are rejected.

I was gratified, therefore, to see that the Republican State Central Committee, and the distinguished citizens of the State who united with them in the call of the mass meeting, tendered to "all parsons, without regard to past party designation, opposed to the Lecompton policy of the present Administration, a "cordial invitation to attend and to participate in in deliberations." Meeting, as you do, early in the contest of this eventful year, it may be that the attendance will be mainly from ranks of the party which is the largest column of this opposition. But you dainot shut your eyes to the fact that thousands of others in the State will watch your proceedings with the deepest interest, to see if they can cordially units with you hereafter—and that the example you may set will have its influence, not only here, but in other State beside your own, like Pennsylvania, New-Jersey, an, where the contest with the hosts of power and party is to be both hard fought and hardly won. If I were a builder of platforms, I would vonture to suggest that it should recommend an union of freemen for justice and freedom for Kansas—stern and undying hostility to the Lecompton swindle—opposition to the National and State Administrations which uphold and justify —repudiation of the fraudulent election of United States Senator—no increase of the standing army, as a Supreme Bench for Indiana composed of justice rather than partisans. This would embody the vital, living issues which are the themes of to-day.

For myself, I believe sincerely in all "the thirty-nine articles" of the Republican platform, but I shall cordially cooperate here with any

deminant party here, would be a triumph that weak be an augury of better days for the Republic, an would both reward and vindicate the patriotism when round yours very truly, SCHUYLER COLFAX Yours very truly,

JOHN C. UNDERWOOD IN VIRGINIA. Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

CLARKE Co., Va., March 4, 1858. We had a lively time in this county during the last week. Our quarterly Court was in session, and an unneual amount of business was done-more than 130 udgments rendered and executions issued. But the most exciting incident was the appearance

f our fellow-citizen, JOHN C. UNDERWOOD, in Court, to defend a suit which, after he left us last year, was brought against him by a poor creature whom he had trusted when hardly any body else would, and who, we all knew, was in Mr. Underwood's debt. But this poor creature found a lawyer who, for an equal share of what might be obtained, was willing to engage in the dirty business. An account was trumped up, amount ing to about \$180, and the suit begun. Mr. Underwood's old neighbors flocked around him, and he proved on the trial, by three good men, that the plaintiff had acknowledged to them that he owed the defendant The result is a judgment of twenty dollars and costs against the plaintiff-a decision which meets with un versal approbation. Thus has right and justice triumphe i over fraud, and one of the meanest attempts at robbery ever known in this county has been brushe away like a mere cobweb. We were glad to welco back our old friend; and though he has gone and left us, we will hope to see him again. We have not forgotten the hundreds of Bibles and other books which he has distributed among us; and the poor white men of this county will never forget the friend who has furnished so many of us with employment and bread, when we could find no other person to do it for as but our friend, John C. Underwood.

A FRIEND OF TRUTH AND JUSTICE.

I send you a characteristic paragraph from our local

newspaper:
John C. Underwood, -The notorious J. C. Underwood appeared in the Court-House on Tuesday last, and was curiously and with a depicted expression of surprise and resents ont scruinized and gazed at by the crowd. Not a hair of his head was hurt, at by the crowd. Not a hair of his head was hurt, however, because it was understood that he had legal business. We accord to every man his just rights, and opportunity to secure them, but further than that we cannot tolerate a traitor among us. We did as derstand that he desired to address the people and define his position, but such an attempt would be hazardous. We cannot accept insult for injury. The best reparation he can make is to keep from among us and show his face no more in Virginia. The high Commonwealth of Virginia protects as a foster-mother all her children, but she has too high a sense of honot to readopt and take to her bosom a stranger who has all her children, but she has too high a sense of honor to readopt and take to her bosom a stranger who has once deceived her and may again sting her like an adder. Her own true, loyal citizens she will follow to the ends of the earth to protect, if not by her own arm, by that of the General Government; but she cannot find a home for one who has proven himself unworthy of her confidence. Let him so among his kith and kin at the North. We have and desire no such down here. We commend him to the kindness of Northern hospitality. (Clarke Co. (Va.) Journal.

## CANALS VS. RAILROADS.

Apprehending that the Annual Reports of the Anditor of the Canal Department, as well as the Reports of the several Railroads, containing, as they do, fall

particular and voluminous statistical tables, are not generally examined and their importance fully existered by the people, I herewith make a few extracts to lay before your readers.

Leaving out the lengthy tables of classification, takenage, value, &c., for the present purpose, I only give the amount of tolls, which is the best indication of the purpose of the case of the case of the case. business of the canals. And to show certain results, I take the last ten and the preceding ten years in the

take the last ten and the preceding ten years in the history of our cannels.

The amount of tolis collected in 1237 was 1,224,526 60.

The amount of tolis collected in 1247 was 3,535,521 60.

Tetal percentage of increase for talls was years. 161 percentary of increase for talls was years. 161 percentary of the amount of tolis collected in 137 was 12 coll. 150 for the amount of tolis collected in 137 was 12 coll. 150 for the amount of tolic collected in 137 was 12 coll. 150 for containing the amount of tolic collected is since 150 in which year the amount of toli collected 3,522,76 60.

While, in 1337, the amount collected is only 1, 10,77 69.

Making a total percentage of decrease the past of the past of the collected size of the collecte